

# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

December 2011



Pastor Daniel Mejia

What an amazing year 2011 has been for Emmanuel. Indeed, the Holy Spirit is moving among us at Emmanuel UMC. Our bones and spirits have come to life, and this is something to rejoice and give thanks to God about! Borrowing the words from Psalm 150, here it is my humble attempt to make an adaptation for our church.

Praise the Lord! Praise God in heaven; Praise God on earth;  
**Praise God where God is at work in the people at Emmanuel UMC!**  
Praise God for the more than 27 Emmanuel ministries that faithfully serve and represent Christ in our community and around the world.  
**Give thanks and praise to the Lord!**

Praise God for the food pantry, homeless ministry, food distribution and community place café that have allowed us to feed more than 100 people per month.  
**Give thanks and praise the Lord!**

Praise God for our outreach to the community through Halloween

Trunk or Treat night, English as a Second Language classes, Computer lab, EMERGE, Angel Tree, summer movie nights, Rummage Sale & Apple Festival and many more that make our church's presence known in the community.

**Give thanks and praise to the Lord!**

Praise God for the youth and children of our congregation who with their energy and excitement give hope and life in our midst.

**Give thanks and praise to the Lord!**

Praise God for the 11 new members that joined our church this year.

**Give thanks and praise to the Lord!**

Praise God for Emmanuel's 175 years of ministry. Praise God for the many faithful witnesses who with their love and dedication have taught us what it means to love and follow Christ in Beltsville.

**Give thanks and praise to the Lord!**

Praise God for new challenges and new opportunities God will give us in 2012.

**Give thanks and praise to the Lord!**

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

**Praise the Lord!**

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Mejia





*Assistant Pastor Ben Sloan*

On Sunday, November 20, we celebrated Confirmation Sunday. The confirmands, Angela, Deji, Georgia, and Victoria, have all been very dedicated to the confirmation class these past few months. It has been a blessing to talk with them about God and faith. One of the things about the class that I have appreciated has been the opportunity to reflect on and claim our United Methodist heritage. It should be no surprise since I'm hoping to be ordained a pastor in the United Methodist Church, but I think the way United Methodists practice their faith and worship God is a beautiful thing. For the next few issues of the *Lamplighter*, I want to share a bit about why United Methodists do things the way we do in worship. Since confirmation is ending, I'd like to first look at why we need confirmation. The answer to this lies in the way we practice Baptism.

United Methodists claim that there are two kinds of sacraments. One is Holy Communion, and the other is Baptism. "Sacrament" refers to rituals that are an outward and

visible sign of an inward and invisible grace. In scripture Jesus commanded his disciples to share in Communion together and to go and baptize people in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28: 18-20). Communion and Baptism do not in and of themselves save us or provide us with eternal life. Rather they are ways in worship that God promises to meet us and surround us with grace. This is an important point of distinction between United Methodists and some other denominations like Baptists. We believe that in Communion and Baptism, God is the one doing something important. God is giving us grace. Baptism is not about being good enough for God. The beauty of Baptism is that even though we are not perfect, God surrounds us with grace, forgiveness, and love. What's more, that love and forgiveness never leave us no matter what we do. So when we baptize an infant in the United Methodist Church, that child will never need to be re-baptized. However, our choice to believe in and follow God is important too, and that is where confirmation comes in. Confirmation is a way for those of us who were baptized as infants to claim God's love that has already been present in our lives. Confirmation is a way for us to appreciate how God loved us first and walked with us until we were able to choose God for ourselves. Confirmation isn't the only way to claim and affirm God's love in our life in worship though. The United Methodist Church also has a beautiful celebration in which we "remember our baptism." Since I was baptized as an infant, there is no way I could actually remember my Baptism. Rather, I remember the significance of God's love in my life as repre-

sented in my Baptism. You may be able to remember being Baptized, or like me, you may not. Maybe you haven't been Baptized at all yet. Regardless, I'd encourage you to remember your Baptism. Remember the ways in which God has surrounded you with love all your life. As we celebrate the confirmation of Angela, Deji, Georgia, and Victoria, I know that I will also be remembering the love of God in my life and with them I hope to reaffirm my commitment to uphold the church through my prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.



## CORRECTION

The November *Lamplighter* provided an incorrect e-mail address for our former distinguished Pastor, Dick & Martha Karpal. The correct address is:

[rkarpal7@suddenlink.net](mailto:rkarpal7@suddenlink.net)

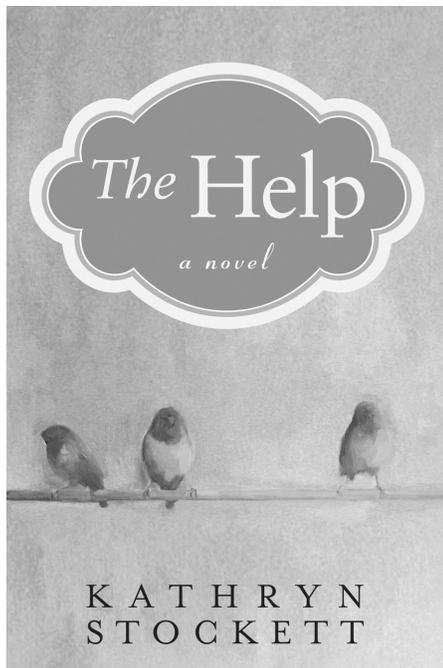
## Faithful Readers Book Group

Our next group meeting in the education building will be on Saturday, January 21st, 2012, 10:00-11:00 a.m. discussing the book, ***The Help***, by Kathryn Stockett, with excerpts from the movie, if possible.

So, you have plenty of time to read it from the library and bring a friend!

Could coffee/tea, chicken and biscuits be in our future for the New Year? Quite possibly!

Questions? Contact Bryant Davis or Carol Clatterbuck.



## EMERGE (Mental Health Ministry)

By Ann Rowland

### Avoiding the Holiday Blues

As I considered writing about Holiday Blues, I researched the topic on several mental health sites and found very similar messages in all of them. Several suggestions that struck me as a common thread was to get involved in the traditions of our faith, reach out to help people less fortunate than ourselves and try not to re-create holidays of the past.

Times have changed and so have we. Attempting to have the Christmas of our childhood, that “perfect Christmas,” is seldom realistic and almost never achieved. So, let’s be realistic and enjoy the holidays of 2011 while savoring the memories of Christmas’ past.

Regardless of our mental health status most of us can benefit from a few helpful coping strategies during the holidays. In order to have a less stressful holiday season this year, here are some of the strategies recommended by mental health experts that I wrote about in last December’s Lamplighter. The message is timeless and as appropriate in 2011 as it was last year.

Participate in the traditions of your faith.

Spend quality time with family and friends.

Don’t over spend.

Don’t over extend.

Volunteer to help someone in need.

Get plenty of rest.

Keep expectations realistic (prioritize).

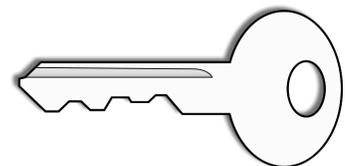
“If despite your best efforts to remain upbeat this holiday season, you find yourself feeling down for a sustained period of time, get help and don’t try to tough it out alone” say experts from the University of Maryland, School of Medicine. They go on to say, “There are treatment options available to you that could make a significant difference in your outlook.”

As you prioritize for the holiday season, you are encouraged to participate in the special worship services, events, and activities Emmanuel is offering during Advent. Here’s wishing all of you good mental health and all the blessings and joys of this beautiful Holy Season.

## NOTICE

If you are leaving a job in the church and have been issued a key, return it to the office and you will no longer be responsible for it. Do not give it to someone else who is taking a job. The Trustees need to know who have keys. If you pass it on, then your name is listed as having it.

*The Trustees*



***Have one of these?***

## It's Been a Great 175<sup>th</sup> Year!!

As we close out the year, I want to thank everyone who contributed to Emmanuel's celebration of 175 years of Methodism in Beltsville.

I had a hard-working committee who helped plan and coordinate this year's events. Members included Rick Bergmann, Bob and Charline Frederick, Ernie Kilbourne, Ann Rowland, Margie Mock, Bobbie Deegan, Mamie Smith, Pat Allen, Doris Wray, Sarah, Patrick, and Preston Elliott, Theresa Timity, Debbie McNitt, Evelyn Adkins and Rev. Daniel Mejia. Thank you all for "stepping up to the plate" once again!

Margie Mock did a wonderful job selling the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary mugs and shirts. Thank you, Margie! We can always count on your help! Some commemorative shirts, mugs, and anniversary pins remain, so we will be selling those at a great discount on December 4. Now is the time to buy!

The centerpiece of our celebration was the anniversary dinner and commemorative service on September 17 – 18. The weekend was everything we hoped it would be. A huge thank you to Dick and Martha Karpal for joining us! You are both much loved, and it meant a lot to your friends at Emmanuel that you came to share the occasion with us. All who attended the dinner at the Knights of Columbus had a tasty meal and a lot of fun. The silent and live auctions we held that night were successful, and for this, we owe our sponsors a debt of gratitude. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank

them one more time.

Those who advertised in the dinner program were: Donald V. Borgwardt Funeral Home; County Councilwoman Mary A. Lehman; Roberta Yaklich, an Associate Broker with Q Williams Real Estate Associates; Karen Coakley, a Realtor with Re/Max Advantage Realty; Janet and Raymond Doetsch; John Kim, owner of Raulin's Bakery; John and Felicia Anna, owners of Adirondack Tree Experts; and Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union.

Among those who donated auction items were Eggspectation Restaurant; Gyromania Beltsville; Hair and Things; Glenn Highsmith of Harry and Sons Contracting, Mandarin Delight; Nu Look Cleaners; Panera Bread; Sierra's Grill; Totally Polished Day Spa; Toucan Taco; Wood's Flowers and Gifts; and State Senator James Rosapepe.

John J. Moynihan of Beltsville Dental Care, Pizza Roma on Rhode Island Avenue in College Park and Gunpowder Golf Club both purchased an ad and donated auction items. Emmanuel is very grateful for their generosity.

When looking for someone to provide goods or services, please remember these businesses for their support of Emmanuel and consider giving them your business as a way of saying, "Thank you from Emmanuel!"

The auction also received support from family and friends within our Emmanuel community. Bill Raulin, Alice White, Bob and Charline Frederick, Kathy and Pat Mellott, Deb-

bie McNitt, Ann Rowland, Lorrie Rowland, Ginger Butcher, Patrick Elliott, Bob Miller, Emmy Lear, Lois Rodriguez, Carol Clatterbuck, Walt Gillette and Bobbie Deegan donated items or services that were auctioned. Please take a minute to thank each of these persons for their contribution to the success of the fundraiser.

As you know, the monies raised that night will go toward upgrading our 50-year-old church kitchen. Methodism's founder, John Wesley, devoted his life to ministering to the poor and needy. In recent years, Emmanuel has renewed our commitment to this legacy by feeding the homeless in D. C., distributing food boxes to needy local families and helping immigrants improve their economic status by providing low-cost English classes. Upgrading the kitchen would be a lasting testament to Emmanuel's faithfulness, for it would strengthen both our outreach capability and our food ministry.

Nine families recognized our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary by donating \$175 to the "Kitchen Fund." Thank you, Joanne Dickson, Bob and Charline Frederick, Rev. and Mrs. Karpal, Kathy and Pat Mellott, Mary Plantholt, Bill Raulin, John and May Stewart, and Beverly Ward.

Rick Bergmann, Mike Hatton and Patrick Elliott informally kicked off the kitchen fund-raising earlier in the year by putting together a Spaghetti Dinner/Superbowl Party in January and a Chicken Dinner/Yard Sale in June. You did a great job, guys, and I really appreciated you taking the lead on these.

**175<sup>th</sup>**  
continues on page 5

**175th**

continued from page 4

The anniversary dinner and auction wouldn't have happened without the help of Bob and Charline Frederick, Ann Rowland, Bill Raulin and Ted Ladd, among others. Thanks to you all. We made a great team!

The anniversary worship service on September 18 was special for several reasons. Emmanuel was honored to have Bishop John R. Schol preach that day, and fellow Methodist (and County Executive) Rushern Baker joined us for the service. Just as important, the Maranatha and Chancel Choirs gave the first performance of "Together We Praise." Thank you, Kathryn Griffin, for coming up with the idea of commissioning an anthem, raising the funds, working with the composer, Ruth Elaine Schram, and seeing the project to completion. Thanks, too, to the members of both choirs for the hours spent in rehearsal. They paid off; you sounded great! Pat Allen shared her musical talents even more. She composed a benediction response called, "Apostolic Blessing," which premiered at the anniversary service and has been used at the 11:15 service since then. Well done, Pat, and thank you from the whole congregation. Rick Bergmann topped off the service's "special events" with a video of Emmanuel "now and then" that connected the past and our present.

Thanks to all who contributed a recipe to the commemorative cookbook, and to Bobbie Deegan for coordinating it.

Still to come are the updated

church history and new photo directory. The original church history was written on a typewriter! Thank you very much, May Stewart, for "re-typing" the whole thing into a computer! Thanks, too, to Rick Bergmann for overseeing the update and to all who contributed to the effort. I'm looking forward to reading it.

The bad part about thanking folks is that someone is always inadvertently left out. I apologize in advance! The past year has been pretty hectic (at my house especially), and I must confess that I am glad it is winding down! However, I am very proud of all that Emmanuel has accomplished this year. We've set the bar pretty high for the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

## Community Place Café (CPC)

By: Ann Rowland

Did you know that Community Place Café, located at First United Methodist Church in Hyattsville, is among the many ministries sponsored by Community Ministry of Prince George's County? Did you know that CPC serves homeless and at-risk individuals and families over 20,000 hot, nutritious lunches each year?



*20,000 lunches each year*

Did you know that Emmanuel serves lunch at CPC on the third Friday of every month to an average of 75 men, women and children amounting to 900 lunches each year?



*900 lunches each year*

Did you know that one of the coping strategies for **avoiding the holiday blues** is to help people less fortunate than ourselves?



*Volunteer—Get Happy*

Volunteerism has the power to free us from our own issues while we focus on helping those in need. CPC is one of the many opportunities Emmanuel offers to become involved in the helping ministries. If you would like to serve at CPC this December by helping prepare the meal on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> or serving at First United Methodist on December 16<sup>th</sup> please contact Elsie Cline at 301-937-6024 or me at 301-572-5250 or [anna.rowland@comcast.net](mailto:anna.rowland@comcast.net). Speaking from experience, this is a ministry guaranteed to help us put things in perspective. It just plain "**feels good**" to help others, especially during this season of giving.

# The Year Without A Santa Claus



Will Jingle, Jangle and Dancer be able to help Santa before Christmas is cancelled? Join, The Miser Brothers, Mother Nature, Mrs. Claus and more at *The Year Without A Santa Claus* to find out!

**Emmanuel United Methodist Church Presents "The Year Without A Santa Claus" live December 9 and 10th at 7pm and December 11 at 2pm.**

Tickets are \$5.00 and children under 3 are free.

Email us at [tickets@emmanuelumcbeltsville.net](mailto:tickets@emmanuelumcbeltsville.net) or call us at 301-937-7114 to reserve your seat today.

Emmanuel is located at 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705

## Christian Education

Sunday study classes for all ages continue through the month of December. We have 3 classes for adults and 3 classes for young people. Nursery is available for children younger than prekindergarten.

We will hold a Christmas Card Workshop on Sunday, December 4, 10:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m. for our young people to make cards for area shut-ins. If you know of a young person whom you would like to introduce to Emmanuel UMC, this is a great event to invite them to. And if you know of a Beltsville-area shut-in who would appreciate receiving a card, please email me their name and address at [toddreitzel@verizon.net](mailto:toddreitzel@verizon.net).

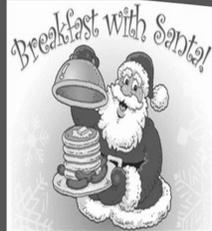
The Tuesday evening Youth Learning Fellowship completed a successful autumn term last month and will re-open in January, in conjunction with Emmanuel's ESOL program.

Do you have ideas for Vacation Bible School? If so, contact me at [toddreitzel@verizon.net](mailto:toddreitzel@verizon.net) or at 301.595.8963. We will begin planning for VBS 2012 within the next month.

Blessings,  
*Todd Reitzel*  
Superintendent

Emmanuel United Methodist Church presents...

**December 10th**  
**9am - 11am**



-Sausage and Pancakes with toppings  
-Special surprises with Breakfast  
-Photos with Santa

Proceeds support  
Family Life  
Ministries

**Cost:**  
**\$5/person for breakfast**  
**\$5/photo with Santa**



11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, Md.  
301-937-7114 office@emmanuelumcbeltsville.net  
[www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net](http://www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net)  
Call or e-mail for reservations  
Seating is limited

Back by popular demand, on Saturday, December 10, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. Santa Claus will join us for breakfast at Emmanuel. Breakfast is \$5 and photos with Santa are \$5. Children of all ages can join us and reservations are suggested. Invite neighbors and friends to this fun holiday event which supports the annual church-wide retreat to Manidokan.

## Now We're Cooking!

By Bobbie Deegan

Our cookbook has arrived! It's entitled Recipes and Remembrances - Commemorating 175 years of Methodism in Beltsville. It costs just \$12, and sales are going well - more than 120 cookbooks have been sold so far. Many are going to be Christmas presents!

A number of the 470 tasty recipes use familiar ingredients (such as Coca-Cola, 7-Up or mayonnaise) in a novel way! The "Forget Me Cookies" recipe where you preheat the oven, put the cookies in, then turn the oven off and let the cookies "bake" overnight intrigues me. I'm looking forward to trying that one!

The cookbook has two convenient features. Besides the standard index of recipes by category, there's an alphabetical listing of all the contributors with the page numbers on which their recipes will be found. For example, Martha Karpal's recipe for New England Corn Bread is on page 102. (I got it from UMW's Heavenly Dishes cookbook, Martha!) The cookbook also has an envelope inside the back cover to hold additional recipes you want to tuck away.

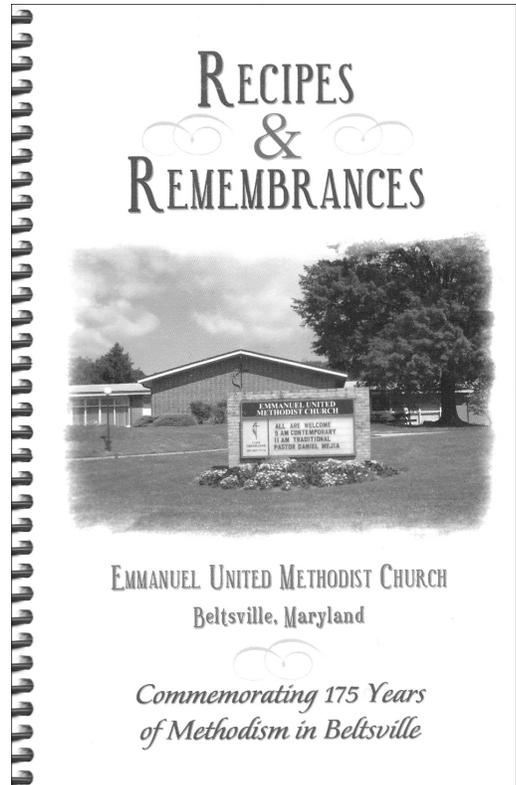
One note to help you find your favorite recipes: To keep the cost of the cookbooks down, I used the standard categories set by the cookbook publisher. They seemed pretty straightforward until I started actually assigning recipes to a category! Then I discovered there are a lot of judgment calls. After moving recipes between categories over and over again, I finally gave myself some "rules," right or wrong:

- ▲ Regardless of the title, if a Jell-O recipe has Cool Whip in it, it's listed as a dessert; if it doesn't have Cool Whip in it, it's a salad!
- ▲ Chili is listed under "Soups and Salads."
- ▲ Brownies are listed under "Desserts."
- ▲ Fruit dishes such as applesauce and scalloped apples are listed under "Vegetables and Side Dishes," since I didn't have a Fruit category!

The "This and That" category includes those recipes that didn't fit anywhere else, such as pickles, sauces and dips. That section also includes the recipes we use for the Seder tasting on Holy Thursday. To make it easier to find them, I added the word "Passover" to each title (for example, "Passover Charoset") so they will sort together. "This and That" also includes five recipes from the Community Place Cafe recipe book, each of which will serve 100 persons. The titles of these recipes all begin with CPC (for "Community Place Cafe"), again so they will sort together.

I tried very hard to get everyone's recipe right, but I am sure there are things I missed. If you find a substantive error, my apologies! Please let me know what it is, so I can pass the correct information on.

If you have not yet had an opportunity to get your copy of Recipes and Remembrances, see me before either service on most Sundays. If this isn't convenient, give me a call at 301-937-7070 or email me at [BobbieDeegan@aol.com](mailto:BobbieDeegan@aol.com) and we can make other arrangements.





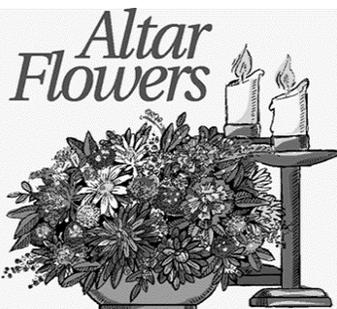
December Birthdays

- 1 Motunriyo Oluwafemi
- 3 Ann Rowland
- 7 John Stewart
- 13 Cheryl Grays
- 15 Becky Cavallo, Michael McNealy
- 16 Jennie Owens
- 18 Jan Slingerland
- 24 Joyce Blakley
- 26 Lois Rodriguez, Alexandra Scotland
- 27 Rogers Beasley
- 30 Kim Hiner, Maggie Leatherman,  
Maxine Riggelman, Jean Faris



December Anniversaries

- 10 Margie & Bob Mock
- 18 Jeanette & Charles Vannoy  
Susan & Steven Cunningham
- 30 Michael and Gail Belshay  
Charline & Bob Frederick



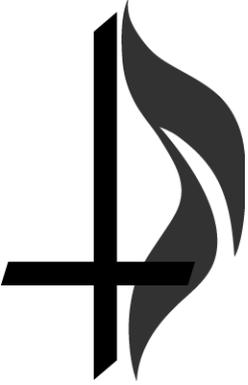
- December
- 4 Carol Clatterbuck
  - 11 Theresa Timity
  - 18
  - 25

# DECEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	2	3
4 9 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 12:30 p.m. Youth Group 12:30 p.m. UMW Executive Meeting Homeless Ministry	5	6	7 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir 7:00 p.m. Church Council	8 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	9 7:00 p.m. "The Year With- out a Santa Claus"	10 9:00 a.m. Breakfast with Santa 12:00 noon Angel Tree Party 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. "The Year Without a Santa Claus"
11 9 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 2nd Sunday Lunch 2:00 p.m. "The Year Without a Santa Claus"	12 12:30 p.m. Women's Commu- nity Club of Belts- ville 7:00 p.m. Depression/ Bipolar Support Group 7:30 p.m. Trustee Meeting	13 10:00 a.m. Prayer Fellowship	14 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee	15 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	16 11:00 a.m. Community Place Café	17 9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir
18 9 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship Service with Cantata	19 12:00 noon Ellen Hoover Circle	20	21 10:00 a.m. Susanna Wesley Circle 12:00 noon Dorcas Circle 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir 7:00 p.m. Sisters in Spirit	22 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	23	24 10:00 a.m. Food Distribution 7:00 p.m. Family Service 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
25 9:00 a.m. Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	26 Church Office Closed 7:00 p.m. Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	27 10:00 a.m. Prayer Service	28	29	30	31

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Address Service Requested

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